

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 202368 TOSEC 100140

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 202368 TOSEC 100140

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, NI

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: PROPOSED TRIP TO NIGERIA
(S/S 75,6952)

FOR SECRETARY FROM UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

1. IN MY MEMORANDUM TO YOU OF AUGUST 15 WHICH IS STILL BEFORE YOU, I RECOMMENDED THAT YOU AUTHORIZE ME TO VISIT LAGOS IN THE SECOND WEEK OF SEPTEMBER. THE REASONS FOR MAKING THE TRIP WERE (1) TO BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT ANY WEAKENING OF OPEC ARISING OUT OF A SUCCESSFUL BILATERAL NEGOTIATION WITH IRAN, (2) TO CULTIVATE RELATIONS WITH OUR LARGEST FOREIGN CRUDE OIL SUPPLIER AND THUS IMPROVE OUR EMBARGO INSURANCE, (3) TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS WITH A COUNTRY THAT WILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE COMING PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE, (4) TO BEGIN BUILDING A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH A KEY AFRICAN LDC IN THE PERIOD

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IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING YOUR UNGA SPEECH, AND (5) TO RAISE

THE QUESTION OF THE OPEC PRICE INCREASE WITH ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE CLUB BEFORE A FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED. REASON (1) NO LONGER APPEARS PLAUSIBLE BUT THE REMAINING REASONS STILL APPEAR VALID.

2. THE EMBASSY AND AMBASSADOR EASUM IN PARTICULAR ARE KEEN ON THIS MISSION. THEY CAUTION, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WILL HAVE TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS SOON WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT IF THIS TRIP IS TO TAKE PLACE AS TENTATIVELY PLANNED.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU AUTHORIZE ME TO PROCEED WITH THIS TRIP.

APPROVE.....

DISAPPROVE INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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